WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Air Services between Pondicherry and Chennai

156. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are having any proposal to resume air services between Pondicherry and Chennai;

(b) if so, by when they will be resumed; and

(c) if not, the reasons for stopping the air services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, airlines are free to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject, of course, to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

Development of International Airport at Thiruvananthapuram

157. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land acquisition process for the development of International Airport at Thiruvananthapuram has been completed;

(b) if so, the extent of land acquired so far;

(c) the extent of land pending to be acquired;

(d) by when the developmental activities of the Airport would be completed;

(e) the details of developmental activities undertaken so far; and

(f) the proposed activities pending to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (f) State Government of Kerala through Thiruvananthapuram Airport Development Society (TRIADS) propose to take up the project for construction of a new International Terminal on Chakkai Canal side of the Trivandrum International Airport and has acquired 27 acres of land. 28 acres of Airports Authority of India land will also be used for the purpose. A final decision has not been taken in the matter so far and as such, no time frame can be given at this stage.

Changing the name of Airports in H.P.

†158. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Chief Minister and Members of Parliament from Himachal Pradesh have requested to change the names of Gaggal, Jubbar Hatti and Bhuntar airports situated in Himachal Pradesh as Kangra, Shimla and Kullu Manali airports as the existing names are not in use and are lesser known;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this direction; and

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The names of Gaggal, Jubbar Hatti and Bhuntar airports in Himachal Pradesh have already been changed to Kangra, Shimla and Kullu-Manali airports respectively.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.